

## AMENDED CLAIMS

Please amend the claims of this application to as follows:

**Claims 1.-13. (Cancelled)**

**14. (Withdrawn)** A method for manufacturing building blocks comprising the steps of:

a. Forming a mixture of compressible block making material, said material comprised entirely or in part of waste material selected from the group consisting of fly ash, ground wood, waste vegetation matter, sea shells and sand;

b. Placing said block making material into a compression chamber, the interior surfaces of said chamber having a desired shape; and

c. Compressing said material into a desired shape in said compression chamber with a ram.

**15. (Withdrawn)** The method of claim 14, wherein the ram applies sufficient pressure to the compressible block making material in the compression chamber to cure said material.

**16. (Withdrawn)** The method of claim 14, further comprising the step of placing said compressible block making material into a fill chamber, the ram forcing the material from the fill chamber into the compression chamber.

**17. (Withdrawn)** The method of claim 16, further comprising the step of closing a gate attached to the compression chamber to retain the compressible block making material in the compression chamber.

**18. (Withdrawn)** The method of claim 17, further comprising the step of opening the gate to enable the removal of the building block from the compression chamber.

**19. (Withdrawn)** The method of claim 18, further comprising the step of using an electronic control unit to monitor and control the operation of the ram and the gate.

**20. (Withdrawn)** The building block manufacturing machine of claim 1 wherein a quantity of cement is added to the material selected to form the compressible block.

**21. (Newly Added)** A building block manufacturing machine, the building block being of the type formed from material comprised entirely or in part of waste material selected from the group consisting of fly ash, ground wood, waste vegetation matter, seashells and sand, said machine comprising:

a. first and second compression chambers capable of containing said compressible block making waste material, for use for manufacturing of said building blocks;

b. a ram capable of exerting a desired pressure on the contents of said compression chamber, wherein the pressure exerted by the ram device is sufficient to cure said block making waste material;

c. a fill chamber, said fill chamber being arranged in proximity between the said compression chambers and capable of receiving the block making waste material, such that the said waste material may be transferred from the fill chamber into the compression chambers by the ram, wherein the fill chamber is attached to the compression chambers, and wherein the ram, the fill chamber, and the compression chambers are all linearly aligned to one another;

d. further comprising a gate associated with each of the compression chambers, said gates being capable of being closed to retain the contents of the compression chambers in the compression chambers and capable of opening to release the contents of the compression chambers when the block forming has been completed;

e. an actuator, said actuator capable of closing said gates, and said actuator, upon actuation, capable of opening said gates when blocks have been formed;

f. a ridge on the inner surfaces of the compression chambers, said ridge capable of imparting an impression into the block making waste material placed in the said compression chambers; and wherein the ramming device is pneumatic operative, and further comprising an electronic control unit, said control unit capable of controlling one or more of the control functions of the machine during forming of the building blocks from the waste material;

g. each said ram upon actuation pushing the block waste material from the ram fill chamber into one of the compression chambers, wherein the ram chamber closes, to be subjected to pressure for acting upon the waste material, to compress it into the block form, whereupon when a dwell time is satisfied, a timer in the control panel sends a signal to the ram switching module to cause the ram to retract slowly a short distance to allow the gate to open and remove the waste material formed block from its respective compression chamber.

**22. (Newly Added)** A building block manufacturing machine, the building block being of the type formed from material comprised entirely or in part of waste material selected from the group consisting of fly ash, ground wood, waste vegetation matter, seashells and sand, said machine comprising:

a. first and second compression chambers capable of containing said compressible block making waste material, for use for manufacturing of said building blocks;

b. a ram capable of exerting a desired pressure on the contents of said compression chamber, wherein the pressure exerted by the ram device is sufficient to cure said block making waste material;

c. a fill chamber, said fill chamber being arranged in proximity between the said compression chambers and capable of receiving the block making waste material, such that the said waste material may be transferred from the fill chamber into the compression chambers by the ram, wherein the fill chamber is attached to the compression chambers, and wherein the ram, the fill chamber, and the compression chambers are all linearly aligned to one another;

d. further comprising a gate associated with each of the compression chambers, said gates being capable of being closed to retain the contents of the compression chambers in the compression chambers and capable of opening to release the contents of the compression chambers when the block forming has been completed;

e. an actuator, said actuator capable of closing said gates, and said actuator, upon actuation, capable of opening said gates when blocks have been formed;

f. a ridge on the inner surfaces of the compression chambers, said ridge capable of imparting an impression into the block making waste material placed in the said compression chambers; and wherein the ramming device is hydraulic operative, and further comprising an electronic control unit, said control unit capable of controlling one or more of the control functions of the machine during forming of the building blocks from the waste material;

g. each said ram upon actuation pushing the block waste material from the ram fill chamber into one of the compression chambers, wherein the ram chamber closes, to be subjected to pressure for acting upon the waste material, to compress it into the block form, whereupon when a dwell time is satisfied, a timer in the control panel sends a signal to the ram switching module to cause the ram to retract slowly a short distance to allow the gate to open and remove the waste material formed block from its respective compression chamber.